



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/282,320	03/31/1999	JACQUELYN ANNETTE MARTINO	PHA23.646	8425

7590 11/04/2002

US PHILIPS CORPORATION
CORPARTE PATENT COUNSEL
580 WHITE PLAINS RD
TARRYTOWN, NY 10591

EXAMINER

ENG, GEORGE

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2643

DATE MAILED: 11/04/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/282,320

Applicant(s)

MARTINO ET AL.

Examiner

George Eng

Art Unit

2643

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 October 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Art Unit: 2643

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Prosecution Application

1. The request filed on 8/13/2002 (paper no. 14) for a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) under 37 CFR 1.53(d) based on parent Application No. 09/282,320 is acceptable and a CPA has been established. An action on the CPA follows.

Response to Amendment

2. This Office action is in response to amendment filed (10/23/2002 (paper no. 15)).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later

Art Unit: 2643

invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

4. Claims 1-2, 4, 6-7, 9-11, 13-15 and 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamaya et al. (US PAT. 5,537,175 hereinafter Kamaya) in view of Ueda et al. (US PAT. 4,560,261 hereinafter Ueda).

Regarding claim 1, Kamaya discloses an image framing system comprising a camera (2) having a lens (5) for producing a camera image, and a mirror (40) for producing a mirror image, the mirror having a reflection surface that is substantially greater than the lens surface (figure 19), wherein the mirror is coupled to the camera such that the mirror image is representative of the camera image so as facilitate framing an object image (i.e., a camera user) in the camera image (col. 6 lines 1-60 and col. 9 lines 11-67). Kamaya differs from the claimed invention in not specifically teaching the mirror movably arranged at an angle to the camera. However, Ueda discloses a camera provided with a framing mirror on the front side of the camera housing for observing an object as shown in figure 1, wherein the framing mirror is moveably arranged at an angle to the camera in order to correct for the parallax involved when the framing mirror is viewed from the front of the camera (col. 3 lines 29-49 and col. 4 lines 16-54). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Kamaya in having the mirror moveably arranged at the angle to the camera, as per teaching of Ueda, in order to correct for the parallax involved when the framing mirror is viewed from the front of the camera.

Art Unit: 2643

Regarding claim 2, Kamaya discloses the optical axis CO of the lens 5 of the video camera (1B) and the optical axis CB of the mirror (22) are commonly aligned (col. 6 lines 31-35) so that a field of reflection of the mirror substantially corresponds to a first field of view of at least a portion of the camera image (col. 6 lines 39-43).

Regarding claim 4, Kamaya discloses the mirror (22) has a front surface that is substantially reflective and a rear surface and the camera (1B) is located behind the rear surface (figure 7 and col. 6 lines 39-48).

Regarding claim 6, Kamaya teaches a controllable device (i.e., a stepping motor) for controlling a field of reflection that is associated with the mirror (col. 7 lines 45-51 and col. 10 lines 19-56).

Regarding claim 7, Kamaya teaches a certain degree of outside ambient light (i.e., a light source that emits light) reflected by a half mirror (10) while the remaining light passes into the lens (5) to be recorded as an image such that the lens provides the image in dependence upon the light (col. 4 lines 51-56). Note while Kamaya also teaches the lens (5) is formed as the half mirror (10) (col. 4 lines 38-39). Thus, the mirror provides the mirror image in dependence upon the light as well as the lens.

Regarding claim 9, Kamaya teaches the image framing system including at least one of an appliance, i.e., a playback device (figure 8 and col. 6 lines 46-48).

Regarding claim 10, Kamaya teaches that the camera image is communicated to a remote location for subsequent viewing (col. 12 lines 43-49).

Regarding claim 11, Kamaya discloses a system comprising an image framing system that includes a camera (1') having a lens (5') for producing a camera image in communicate with

Art Unit: 2643

a remote site, a mirror (10') for producing a mirror image that is representative of the camera image to facilitate framing an object image in the camera image, the mirror having a reflection surface that is substantially greater than the lens surface (figure 31) and a display system (80) that displays a second image received from the remote site (figure 32 and col. 12 lines 41-51). Kamaya differs from the claimed invention in not specifically teaching the mirror movably arranged at an angle to the camera. However, Ueda discloses a camera provided with a framing mirror on the front side of the camera housing for observing an object as shown in figure 1, wherein the framing mirror is moveably arranged at an angle to the camera in order to correct for the parallax involved when the framing mirror is viewed from the front of the camera (col. 3 lines 29-49 and col. 4 lines 16-54). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Kamaya in having the mirror moveably arranged at the angle to the camera, as per teaching of Ueda, in order to correct for the parallax involved when the framing mirror is viewed from the front of the camera.

Regarding claim 13, Kamaya teaches a lens (5') being covered by the mirror (10') so that the mirror image is representative of the camera image so as facilitate framing an object image (i.e., a camera user) in the camera image (col. 12 lines 47-49).

Regarding claim 14, Kamaya teaches a user image would be transmitted to a corresponding monitor at the other person's side (col. 12 lines 43-46) so that the system inherently comprises a transmitter in order to communicate the camera image to the remote site.

Regarding claim 15, Kamaya discloses an image transmission system comprising a camera (2) having a lens (5) for producing a camera image, and a mirror (40) for producing a mirror image that corresponds substantially to the camera image (col. 6 lines 1-60 and col. 9

Art Unit: 2643

lines 11-67), the mirror having a reflection surface that is substantially greater than the lens surface (figure 19). Note while Kamaya also teaches the camera image would be transmitted to a corresponding monitor at the other person's side (col. 12 lines 43-46). Thus, the system inherently comprises a transmitter for transmitting the camera image to a remote location. Kamaya differs from the claimed invention in not specifically teaching the mirror movably arranged at an angle to the camera. However, Ueda discloses a camera provided with a framing mirror on the front side of the camera housing for observing an object as shown in figure 1, wherein the framing mirror is moveably arranged at an angle to the camera in order to correct for the parallax involved when the framing mirror is viewed from the front of the camera (col. 3 lines 29-49 and col. 4 lines 16-54). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Kamaya in having the mirror moveably arranged at the angle to the camera, as per teaching of Ueda, in order to correct for the parallax involved when the framing mirror is viewed from the front of the camera.

Regarding claim 18, Kamaya discloses a method of framing an image of an object within a camera image comprising the steps of having a mirror so as to provide a mirror image that is representative of the camera image (col. 6 lines 23-35), and frame the image of object in the camera image (col. 6 lines 36-41). In addition, Kamaya teaches the mirror acts as a viewfinder for viewing an object to be recorded (col. 5 lines 23-26) and a taping operation will be started only when an operator is satisfied with his or her image (i.e., an object) in a field of view during self-photography (abstract and col. 5 lines 8-11). Although Kamaya does not specifically teaches to adjust a position of the object in dependence upon the mirror image, it is old and notoriously well known in the photography art of using a viewfinder to give a feedback to a

Art Unit: 2643

camera operator for keeping a targeted person in view of camera so that a target object can modify his or her position, or modify the camera orientation in order to make the camera field of view including the target object. Note while Kamaya teaches to use the half mirror acting as the viewfinder to view a capture scene (col. 5 lines 6-8 and lines 20-34). Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to adjust the position of the object in dependence upon the mirror image (i.e., viewfinder image) because it assures a desired image is included within the field of view of the camera. In addition, Kamaya differs from the claimed invention in not specifically teaching to align the mirror. However, Ueda discloses a camera provided with a framing mirror on the front side of the camera housing for observing an object as shown in figure 1, wherein the framing mirror is aligned to provide a mirror image in order to correct for the parallax involved when the framing mirror is viewed from the front of the camera (col. 3 lines 29-49 and col. 4 lines 16-54). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Kamaya in aligning the mirror, as per teaching of Ueda, in order to correct for the parallax involved when the framing mirror is viewed from the front of the camera.

Regarding claim 19, Kamaya teaches that the dimensions of the frame defined in the mirror (54) as shown in figure 21 are established to a scale corresponding to the size of image actually recorded (col. 10 lines 46-61). Thus, a field of reflection of the mirror is adjusted in dependence upon a field of view associated with the camera image.

Regarding claim 20, Kamaya discloses the step of transmitting the camera image to a remote location (col. 12 lines 42-49).

Art Unit: 2643

5. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamaya et al. (US PAT. 5,537,175 hereinafter Kamaya) in view of Ueda et al. (US PAT. 4,560,261 hereinafter Ueda) as applied in claim 1 above, and further in view of Braun (US PAT. 5,532,737).

Regarding claim 3, Kamaya clearly discloses a camera (1B) having a first field of view and the mirror (22) having a field of reflection that substantially corresponds to the first field of view of at least a portion of the camera image (figures 6-8 and col. 6 lines 39-43). The combination of Kamaya and Ueda differs from the claimed invention in not specifically teaching the image framing system further including a second camera that has a second field of view that in conjunction with the first field of view forms a stereo field of view, wherein the field of reflection also substantially corresponds to the second field of view and the stereo field of view in at least a portion of the camera image. However, Braun teaches a camera arrangement comprising a second camera (104) has a second field of view (105) that in conjunction with a first field of view (103) forms a stereo field of view (110) so that the field of reflection of a mirror (130) substantially corresponds to the second field of view and the stereo field of view in at least a portion of the camera image (col. 4 lines 31 through col. 5 line 6). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Kamaya and Ueda in further including the second camera and providing the field of reflection substantially corresponds to the second field of view and the stereo field of view in at least a portion of the camera image, as per teaching of Braun, because it enhances the image framing system to form an aggregate wide angle field of view that does not exhibit a seam or other artifact at the boundary between the sub-images produced by the individual cameras.

Art Unit: 2643

6. Claims 5 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamaya et al. (US PAT. 5,537,175 hereinafter Kamaya) in view of Ueda et al. (US PAT. 4,560,261 hereinafter Ueda) as applied in claims above, and further in view of Kakii (US PAT. 6,137,526, filed July 24, 1998).

Regarding claims 5 and 12, Kamaya discloses the image framing system comprising an output device (80) having a display area for displaying a second image (figure 32 and col. 12 lines 41-51) and a video camera (1') including a lens (5') being covered with a half mirror (10') for capturing a user image for transmitting to a remote site. The combination of Kamaya and Ueda differs from the claimed invention in not specifically teaching the video camera including the lens and the mirror is located within the display area. However, Kakii teaches a two-way interactive system for matching the line of sight of interlocutors in order to enhance communication through a transmission means when the interlocutors are located in remote areas by locating a camera (5) within the display area (8) as shown in figure 2 (col. 13 lines 45-65). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Kamaya and Ueda in locating the camera including the lens and the mirror within the display area, as per teaching of Kakii, because it enhances communication by matching the line of sight of interlocutors.

7. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamaya et al. (US PAT. 5,537,175 hereinafter Kamaya) in view of Ueda et al. (US PAT. 4,560,261 hereinafter

Art Unit: 2643

Ueda) as applied in claim 1 above, and further in view of Kawashima et al. (US PAT. 6,079,862, filed June 18, 1997, hereinafter Kawashima).

Regarding claim 8, the combination of Kamaya and Ueda differs from the claimed invention in not specifically teaching the image framing system further including a recognition device coupled to the camera for providing an enable signal in dependence upon the camera image and a processing system coupled to the recognition device for providing an output independence upon the enable signal. However, Kawashima teaches an automatic tracking system comprising an image recognition unit (5) and a coordinate calculation unit (6), read as a recognition device, coupled to a camera, (4) for providing a quantity of movement (i.e., an enable signal) in dependence upon a targeted camera image, and a movable control unit (7) read as a processing system, coupled to the recognition device for providing driving signals (i.e., an output) for driving the direction of a spotlight (1) in dependence upon the enable signal, so that the lighting direction of the spotlight coincide with the targeted camera image to be lighted (col. 9 line 53 through col. 10 line 21). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Kamaya and Ueda in having the image framing system further including the recognition device and the processing system, as per teaching by Kawashima, because it improves workability to provide automatic tracking lighting system in dependence upon the targeted camera image captured by the camera so that the system is capable of automatically moving the lighting position into the targeted lighting position by operating the camera in coupled with the recognition device and the processing system, thereby the need for an operator to be located in the vicinity of the lighting position is not required.

Art Unit: 2643

8. Claims 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamaya et al. (US PAT. 5,537,175 hereinafter Kamaya) in view of Ueda et al. (US PAT. 4,560,261 hereinafter Ueda) as applied in claim 15 above, and further in view of Parulski et al. (US PAT. 5,943,603, filed April 24, 1997, hereinafter Parulski).

Regarding claims 16-17, Kamaya teaches the camera image would be transmitted to a corresponding monitor at the other person's side (col. 12 lines 43-46) such that the system inherently comprises a transmitter for transmitting the camera image to a remote location. The combination of Kamaya and Ueda differs from the claimed invention in not specifically teaching the image transmission system further comprising a telephone and the transmitter for transmitting the camera image via a wireless system. However, Parulski teaches that a cellular telephone is provided with the components of an image camera to form a combined telephone/camera unit for transmitting the camera image via a wireless system (figures 7-11 and col. 4 line 29 through col.5 line 7). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Kamaya and Ueda in combining the camera with the cellular telephone for transmitting the camera image via the wireless system, as per teaching of Parulski, because it improves the capability of the image transmission system so that it allows image to be quickly and easily transmitted from remote field locations to receiver units.

Art Unit: 2643

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Ota et al. (US PAT. 4,888,606) discloses a photographic apparatus having a self monitoring device for photographing individual persons on visiting cards or certificates (col. 1 line 63 through col. 2 line 31).

11. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington D.C. 20231

Or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

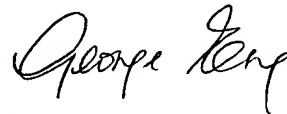
Hand delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, V.A., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to George Eng whose telephone number is 703-308-9555. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday to Friday from 7:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

Art Unit: 2643

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curtis A. Kuntz, can be reached on (703) 305-4870. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-308-6306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.



George Eng

Examiner

Art Unit 2643